



News From Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis 32nd Congressional District of California

1725 Longworth HOB | Washington, DC 20515 – 202.225.5464 -- 202.225.5467 f.

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Contact: Edith Robles
(202) 225-2167

CONGRESSWOMAN SOLIS ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR “LOVE MOM, NOT WAL-MART” CAMPAIGN

Urges Wal-Mart to end discrimination against its women workers

WASHINGTON, D.C. – In honor of Mother’s Day and in support of the gender equality for all women, Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis (CA-32), Democratic Chair of the Congressional Caucus for Women’s Issues, announced her support for WakeupWalmart.com’s “Love Mom, Not Wal-Mart” campaign at a press conference on Capitol Hill today and sign the “Mother of All Mother’s Day Cards” to Wal-Mart CEO Lee Scott. The “Love Mom, Not Wal-Mart” campaign seeks to education the American public about Wal-Mart’s company-wide discrimination, specifically highlighting the current gender discrimination law suit against Wal-Mart.

“As the largest private sector employer of women in the United States, Wal-Mart’s labor practices affect negatively many aspects of women’s lives. As the Democratic Chair of the Congressional Caucus for Women’s Issues, we must honor hard working women and mothers throughout the country and end discrimination in the workplace,” said Congresswoman Solis.

The “Love Mom, Not Wal-Mart” campaign highlights Wal-Mart’s terrible record of discriminating against its women workers. Wal-Mart is currently being sued by 1.6 million current and former women workers – the largest class action lawsuit in U.S. history. The suit documents Wal-Mart’s systematic discrimination against women for lower pay and unequal promotion. A study done in 2003 for the law suit, found that women made-up 72% of Wal-Mart’s hourly workforce, but accounted for only 33% of managers and only 15% of store managers. In addition, women earned from 5% to 15% less than men for the exact same work. This equated to nearly 40 cents less per hour for female hourly workers or nearly \$5,000 less per year for female managers.

The “Love Mom, Not Wal-Mart” campaign is the latest initiative by the Wake Up Wal-Mart campaign. This campaign, which recently launched, is comprised of grassroots supporters from all over the country dedicated to changing Wal-Mart and supporting livable wages, affordable health care and a work environment that fosters gender equality.

Congresswoman Solis is a co-sponsor of the “Paycheck Fairness Act,” introduced by Representative Rosa DeLauro. This bill takes the necessary steps to eliminate gender-based wage discrimination and ensure that women will finally earn what men earn for doing the same job.

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